

# Application for Membership/Baptism



Today's Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_  
First Middle Last

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Spouses Name \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Divorced ☐ Separated ☐ Widowed

*If divorced or separated, please elaborate on last page under "Additional Comments."*

Children Living at Home

Name	Age	Date of Birth

Have you trusted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Sure

Have you been baptized since you professed faith in Christ? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, date and location (Include church name) \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been attending Faith Bible Church and for what reason did you first attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you presently, or were you previously, either a member or regular attender of another church? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, complete the following:

Name of Church \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Attendance from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Leaving \_\_\_\_\_

Are you currently, or were you when you attended, a member in good standing? ☐ Yes ☐ No

In what ways did you serve in the church listed above? \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to join Faith Bible Church? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you read through *What We Teach?* (also available at [faithtwincities.com/what-w](http://faithtwincities.com/what-w)) ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you understand and agree with it? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If there are areas of misunderstanding or disagreement, please state briefly what they are. \_\_\_\_\_

Did you read through, and will you abide by the *Affirmation of Commitment*? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Please read Hebrews 13:17 and describe your understanding of submission to the loving rule of elders over you.

Are you willing to submit to that loving rule? ☐ Yes ☐ No

### Personal Testimony

1. Give a brief description of your life before salvation. \_\_\_\_\_

2. How did you become a Christian? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Give a brief description of your life since you've come to Christ. \_\_\_\_\_

4. How would you explain the gospel from Scripture? \_\_\_\_\_

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Additional Comments \_\_\_\_\_

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Applicant’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor/Elder Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor/Elder Comments \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Areas of ministry you are interested in serving. (check all that apply)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome/Usher       | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music               | <input type="checkbox"/> Evangelism/Outreach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children’s Ministry | <input type="checkbox"/> Men’s Ministry      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technology          | <input type="checkbox"/> Women’s Ministry    |

## What We Teach

### The Holy Scriptures

We teach that the Bible is God's written revelation to man, and thus the 66 books of the Bible given to us by the Holy Spirit constitute the plenary (inspired equally in all parts) Word of God.<sup>1</sup>

We teach that the Word of God is an objective, propositional revelation,<sup>2</sup> verbally inspired in every word,<sup>3</sup> absolutely inerrant in the original documents, infallible, and God-breathed.

We teach that God spoke in His written Word by a process of dual authorship. The Holy Spirit so superintended the human authors that, through their individual personalities and different styles of writing, they composed and recorded God's Word to man<sup>4</sup> without error in the whole or in the part.<sup>5</sup>

We teach the literal, grammatical-historical interpretation of Scripture which affirms the belief that the opening chapters of Genesis present creation in six literal days.<sup>6</sup>

We teach that the Bible constitutes the only infallible rule of faith and practice without error in whole or in part.<sup>7</sup>

1. 1 Corinthians 2:7-14; 2 Peter 1:20-21
2. 1 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Corinthians 2:13
3. 2 Timothy 3:16
4. 2 Peter 1:20-21
5. Matthew 5:18; 2 Timothy 3:16
6. Genesis 1:31; Exodus 31:17
7. Matthew 5:18; 24:35; John 10:35; 16:12-13; 17:17; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20-21

### God

We teach that there is but one living and true God,<sup>1</sup> an infinite, all-knowing Spirit,<sup>2</sup> perfect in all His attributes, one in essence, eternally existing in three Persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit<sup>3</sup>—each equally deserving worship and obedience.

1. Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 45:5-7; 1 Corinthians 8:4
2. John 4:24
3. Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14

*God the Father.* We teach that God the Father, the first Person of the Trinity, orders and disposes all things according to His own purpose and grace.<sup>1</sup> He is the Creator of all things.<sup>2</sup> As the only absolute and omnipotent Ruler in the universe, He is sovereign in creation, providence, and redemption.<sup>3</sup>

He has decreed for His own glory all things that come to pass.<sup>4</sup> He continually upholds, directs, and governs all creatures and events.<sup>5</sup> In His sovereignty He is neither the author nor the approver of sin,<sup>6</sup> nor does He abridge the accountability of moral, intelligent creatures.<sup>7</sup> He has graciously chosen from eternity past those whom He would save to be His own people;<sup>8</sup> He saves from sin all who come to Him through faith in Jesus Christ; He adopts as His own all those who come to Him and thereby becomes Father to them.<sup>9</sup>

1. Psalm 145:8-9; 1 Corinthians 8:6
2. Genesis 1:1-31; Ephesians 3:9
3. Psalm 103:19; Romans 8:14; 11:36; 2 Corinthians 6:18
4. Ephesians 1:11
5. 1 Chronicles 29:11
6. Habakkuk 1:13; John 8:38-47
7. 1 Peter 1:17

8. Ephesians 1:4-6
9. John 1:12; Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:5; Hebrews 12:5-9

God the Son. We teach that Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Trinity, possesses all the divine excellencies, and in these He is coequal, consubstantial, and coeternal with the Father.<sup>1</sup>

We teach that God the Father created according to His own will, through His Son, Jesus Christ, by whom all things continue in existence and in operation.<sup>2</sup>

We teach that in the incarnation (God becoming man) Christ surrendered only the prerogatives of deity but nothing of the divine essence, either in degree or kind.<sup>3</sup>

We teach that Jesus Christ represents humanity and deity in indivisible oneness.<sup>4</sup>

We teach that our Lord Jesus Christ was virgin born;<sup>5</sup> that He was God incarnate;<sup>6</sup> and that the purpose of the incarnation was to reveal God, redeem men, and rule over God's kingdom.<sup>7</sup>

We teach that our Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through the shedding of His blood and sacrificial death on the cross and that His death was voluntary, vicarious, substitutionary, propitiatory, and redemptive,<sup>8</sup> and through the death of our Lord Jesus Christ, the sinner is freed from the penalty of sin; and that he is declared righteous, given eternal life, and adopted into the family of God.<sup>9</sup>

We teach that our justification is made sure by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead and that He is now ascended to the right hand of the Father, where He intercedes as our Advocate and High Priest.<sup>10</sup>

We teach that Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures<sup>11</sup> validating God's acceptance of His sacrifice for sin and justification for the believer.<sup>12</sup> In His resurrection, Jesus also proved His power over sin and death<sup>13</sup> and His deity as the second Person of the Trinity.<sup>14</sup> The believer is united with Christ in His resurrection so that he might walk in newness of life.<sup>15</sup> Because of Christ's resurrection, there is a guarantee of the believer's future resurrection when He returns.<sup>16</sup>

We teach that Jesus Christ will return to receive the church, which is His Body, unto Himself at the rapture, and returning with His church in glory, will establish His millennial kingdom on earth.<sup>17</sup>

We teach that the Lord Jesus Christ is the One through whom God will judge all mankind.<sup>18</sup> As the Mediator between God and man,<sup>19</sup> the Head of His Body the church,<sup>20</sup> and the coming universal King, who will reign on the throne of David,<sup>21</sup> He is the final Judge of all who fail to place their trust in Him as Lord and Savior.<sup>22</sup>

1. John 10:30; 14:9
2. John 1:3; Colossians 1:15-17; Hebrews 1:2
3. Philippians 2:5-8; Colossians 2:9
4. Micah 5:2; John 5:23; 14:9-10; Colossians 2:9
5. Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23, 25; Luke 1:26-35
6. John 1:1, 14
7. Psalm 2:7-9; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:18, 29; Philippians 2:5-11; Hebrews 7:25-26; 1 Peter 1:18-19
8. Isaiah 53:3-6; John 10:15; Romans 3:24-25; 5:8; 1 Peter 2:24
9. Romans 3:25; 5:8-9; 2 Corinthians 5:14-15; 1 Peter 2:24; 3:18
10. Matthew 28:6; Luke 24:38-39; Acts 2:30-31; Romans 8:34; 1 Corinthians 15:12-23; Hebrews 7:25; 9:24; 1 John 2:1
11. 1 Corinthians 15:4
12. Romans 4:25
13. Acts 2:24, 31-32; Romans 6:5-10
14. Romans 1:4
15. Romans 6:3-6; 2 Corinthians 5:15
16. 1 Corinthians 15:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
17. Acts 1:9-11; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Revelation 20

18. John 5:22-23; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Matthew 25:31-46; Revelation 20:11-15
19. 1 Timothy 2:5
20. Ephesians 1:22; 5:23; Colossians 1:18
21. Isaiah 9:6; Luke 1:31-33
22. Matthew 25:14-46; Acts 17:30-31

*God the Holy Spirit.* We teach that the Holy Spirit is a divine Person, eternal, underived, possessing all the attributes of personality and deity, including intellect,<sup>1</sup> emotions,<sup>2</sup> will,<sup>3</sup> eternity,<sup>4</sup> omnipresence,<sup>5</sup> omniscience,<sup>6</sup> omnipotence,<sup>7</sup> and truthfulness.<sup>8</sup> In all the divine attributes He is coequal and consubstantial with the Father and the Son.<sup>9</sup>

We teach that the work of the Holy Spirit in this age began at Pentecost,<sup>10</sup> when He came from the Father as promised by Christ<sup>11</sup> to initiate and complete the building of the Body of Christ,<sup>12</sup> which is His church.<sup>13</sup> The broad scope of His divine activity includes convicting the world of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment; glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ and transforming believers into the image of Christ.<sup>14</sup>

We teach that the Holy Spirit is the supernatural and sovereign agent in regeneration,<sup>15</sup> baptizing all believers into the body of Christ.<sup>16</sup> The Holy Spirit also indwells them,<sup>17</sup> sanctifies them,<sup>18</sup> instructs them,<sup>19</sup> empowers them for service,<sup>20</sup> and seals them unto the day of redemption.<sup>21</sup>

We teach that the Holy Spirit is the divine Teacher, who guided the apostles and prophets into all truth as they committed to writing God's revelation, the Bible.<sup>22</sup> Every believer possesses the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit from the moment of salvation,<sup>23</sup> and it is the duty of all those born of the Spirit to be filled with (controlled by) the Spirit.<sup>24</sup>

1. 1 Corinthians 2:10-13
2. Ephesians 4:30
3. 1 Corinthians 12:11
4. Hebrews 9:14
5. Psalm 139:7-10
6. Isaiah 40:13-14
7. Romans 15:13
8. John 16:13
9. Matthew 28:19; Acts 5:3-4; 28:25-26; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 13:14
10. Acts 1:5; 2:4
11. John 14:16-17; 15:26
12. Ephesians 2:22
13. Ephesians 1:21-22
14. John 16:8-11; 16:14; Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 3:18
15. Titus 3:5
16. 1 Corinthians 12:13
17. Romans 8:9
18. 2 Corinthians 3:18
19. 1 John 2:20, 27
20. 1 Corinthians 12:4, 9
21. 2 Corinthians 1:22; Ephesians 1:13; 4:30
22. John 14:26; 16:13; 2 Peter 1:19-21
23. Romans 8:9
24. Ephesians 5:18

## **Man**

We teach that man was created by God in His image and likeness. Man was created free of sin with a rational nature, intelligence, volition, self-determination, and moral responsibility to God.<sup>1</sup>

We teach that in Adam's sin of disobedience to the revealed will and Word of God, man lost his innocence, incurred the penalty of spiritual and physical death, became subject to the wrath of God. Man's salvation is thereby wholly of God's grace through the redemptive work of our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup>

We teach that, because all men were in Adam, a nature corrupted by Adam's sin has been transmitted to all men of all ages, Jesus Christ being the only exception. All men are thus sinners by nature, by choice, and by divine declaration.<sup>3</sup>

1. Genesis 1:26-27; 2:7, 15-25; James 3:9; Isaiah 43:7; Colossians 1:16; Revelation 4:11
2. Genesis 2:16-17; 3:1-19; John 3:36; Romans 3:23; 6:23; 1 Corinthians 2:14; Ephesians 2:1-3; 1 Timothy 2:13-14; 1 John 1:8
3. Psalm 14:1-3; Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 3:9-18, 23; 5:10-12

## **Salvation**

We teach that salvation is wholly of God by grace on the basis of the redemption of Jesus Christ, the merit of His shed blood, and not on the basis of human merit or works.<sup>1</sup>

1. John 1:12; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-10; 1 Peter 1:18-19

Election. We teach that election is the act of God by which, before the foundation of the world, He chose in Christ those whom He graciously regenerates, saves, and sanctifies.<sup>1</sup>

We teach that sovereign election does not contradict or negate the responsibility of man to repent and trust Christ as Savior and Lord.<sup>2</sup> All whom the Father calls to Himself will come in faith, and all who come in faith the Father will receive.<sup>3</sup> God is truly sovereign, but He exercises this sovereignty in harmony with His other attributes, especially His omniscience, justice, holiness, wisdom, grace, and love.<sup>4</sup>

1. Romans 8:28-30; Ephesians 1:4-11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 2 Timothy 2:10; 1 Peter 1:1-2
2. Ezekiel 18:23, 32; 33:11; John 3:18-19, 36; 5:40; Romans 9:22-23; 2 Thessalonians 2:10-12; Revelation 22:17
3. John 6:37-40, 44; Acts 13:48; James 4:8; Ephesians 1:4-7; Titus 3:4-7; 1 Peter 1:2
4. Romans 9:11-16; Matthew 11:25-28; 2 Timothy 1:9

Regeneration. We teach that regeneration is a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit by which a renewed nature and spiritual life are given. This act of regeneration is a work of God alone by which the sinner plays no active role.<sup>1</sup> This is an instantaneous act solely by the power of the Holy Spirit through the instrumentality of the Word of God.<sup>2</sup>

1. John 3:3-7; Titus 3:5
2. John 5:24; James 1:18; 1 Peter 1:23

Conversion. We teach that those who have been born again by the work of God will respond to the gospel call by repenting of their sins and placing their faith in Christ Jesus for salvation. This response is called conversion. When one is truly converted, there is a turning from sin and as they are turning away from sin, they are turning to Christ in faith.<sup>1</sup>

1. Matthew 4:17; Mark 1:14-15; Acts 16:31; 20:21; 26:20; Romans 10:9-10; Ephesians 2:8-9; 1 Thessalonians 1:10

Justification. We teach that justification before God is an act of God<sup>1</sup> by which He declares righteous those who, through faith in Christ, repent of their sins<sup>2</sup> and confess Him as sovereign Lord,<sup>3</sup> thus receiving the imputation of our sins to Christ<sup>4</sup> and the imputation of Christ's righteousness to us.<sup>5</sup>

1. Romans 8:33
2. Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 11:18; Romans 2:4; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Isaiah 55:6-7
3. Romans 3:20; 4:4-6; 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 12:3; 2 Corinthians 4:5; Philippians 2:1

4. Colossians 2:14; 1 Peter 2:24
5. 1 Corinthians 1:30; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Romans 3:26

**Adoption.** We teach that at the moment of conversion, God adopts believers as His children. Prior to conversion, the Bible teaches that we were children of wrath, sons of disobedience, and even children of the Devil.<sup>1</sup> But God, who saved us by His grace, makes believers members of His family through the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup>

1. Ephesians 2:2-3; John 8:44
2. John 1:12; Ephesians 1:4-6; Galatians 3:26, 4:4-5

**Sanctification.** We teach that every believer is sanctified unto God by justification and is therefore declared to be holy and is therefore identified as a saint. This sanctification is positional and instantaneous and should not be confused with progressive sanctification.<sup>1</sup>

We teach that there is also, by the work of the Holy Spirit, a progressive sanctification by which the state of the believer is brought closer to the standing the believer positionally enjoys through justification. Through obedience to the Word of God and the empowering of the Holy Spirit, the believer is able to live a life of increasing holiness in conformity to the will of God, becoming more and more like our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup> Eradication of sin is not possible, but the Holy Spirit does provide for victory over sin.<sup>3</sup>

1. Acts 20:32; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 30; 6:11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; Hebrews 2:11; 3:1; 10:10, 14; 13:12; 1 Peter 1:2
2. John 17:17, 19; Romans 6:1-22; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-4; 5:23
3. Galatians 5:16-25; Ephesians 4:22-24; Philippians 3:12; Colossians 3:9-10; 1 Peter 1:14-16; 1 John 3:5-9

**Perseverance.** We teach that all those who are truly born of the Spirit and united to Christ by faith are kept secure in Him by God's power and thus will persevere in faith until they go to be with Christ in death.<sup>1</sup>

1. Romans 8:31-39; John 8:31; 10:27-29

**Glorification.** We teach the perfection of the believer at their resurrection, which is the final benefit of redemption.<sup>1</sup> This is not just the perfection of the soul, but also the perfection of the entire body. At this point of salvation, the believer will be fully conformed to the image of the Lord Jesus Christ, where there will no longer be the presence of sin.<sup>2</sup> The image, that was marred by the fall of Adam, will finally be restored because of Christ.

1. Romans 8:19-23, 30
2. Philippians 3:21; Colossians 3:4; Ephesians 5:27

## **The Church**

We teach that all who place their faith in Jesus Christ are immediately placed by the Holy Spirit into one united spiritual Body, the church,<sup>1</sup> the bride of Christ,<sup>2</sup> of which Christ is the Head<sup>3</sup> and which began on the Day of Pentecost<sup>4</sup> and will be completed at the coming of Christ for His own at the rapture.<sup>5</sup>

We teach that the church is distinct from Israel,<sup>6</sup> a mystery not revealed until this age.<sup>7</sup>

We teach that the members of the one spiritual Body are directed to associate themselves together in local assemblies.<sup>8</sup>

We teach that the one supreme authority for the church is Christ<sup>9</sup> and that church leadership, gifts, order, discipline, and worship are all appointed through His sovereignty as found in the Scriptures.<sup>10</sup>

We teach that these leaders lead or rule as servants of Christ<sup>11</sup> and have His authority in directing the church. The congregation is to submit to their leadership.<sup>12</sup>



We teach the importance of discipleship,<sup>13</sup> mutual accountability of all believers to each other,<sup>14</sup> as well as the need for discipline of sinning members of the congregation in accord with the standards of Scripture.<sup>15</sup>

We teach the autonomy of the local church, free from any external authority or control, with the right of self-government and freedom from the interference of any hierarchy of individuals or organizations.<sup>16</sup>

We teach that it is scriptural for true churches to cooperate with each other for the presentation and propagation of the faith. Each local church, however, through its elders and their interpretation and application of Scripture, should be the sole judge of the measure and method of its cooperation. The elders should determine all other matters of membership, policy, discipline, benevolence, and government.<sup>17</sup>

We teach that the purpose of the church is to glorify God<sup>18</sup> by building itself up in the faith,<sup>19</sup> by instruction of the Word,<sup>20</sup> by fellowship,<sup>21</sup> by keeping the ordinances<sup>22</sup> and by advancing and communicating the gospel to the entire world.<sup>23</sup>

We teach the calling of all saints to the work of service.<sup>24</sup>

We teach the need of the church to fulfill her God-given mission as God accomplishes His purpose in the world. To that end, He gives the church spiritual gifts. He gives men chosen for the purpose of equipping the saints for the work of the ministry,<sup>25</sup> and He also gives unique and special spiritual abilities to each member of the Body of Christ.<sup>26</sup>

We teach that there were two kinds of gifts given the early church: miraculous gifts of divine revelation and healing, given temporarily in the apostolic era for the purpose of confirming the authenticity of the apostles' message;<sup>27</sup> and ministering gifts, given to equip believers for edifying one another.<sup>28</sup>

We teach that no one possesses the gift of healing today, but that God does hear and answer the prayer of faith and will answer in accordance with His own perfect will for the sick, suffering, and afflicted.<sup>29</sup>

We teach that two ordinances have been committed to the local church: Christian baptism by immersion and the Lord's Supper.<sup>30</sup>

We teach that the Lord's Supper is the commemoration and proclamation of His death until He comes, and should be always preceded by solemn self-examination.<sup>31</sup> We also teach that, whereas the elements of Communion are only representative of the flesh and blood of Christ, participation in the Lord's Supper is nevertheless an actual communion with the risen Christ, who indwells every believer, and so is present, fellowshiping with His people.<sup>32</sup>

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13
2. 2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:23-32; Revelation 19:7-8
3. Ephesians 1:22; 4:15; Colossians 1:18
4. Acts 2:1-21, 38-47
5. 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
6. 1 Corinthians 10:32
7. Ephesians 2:11-3:6; 5:32
8. 1 Corinthians 11:18-20; Hebrews 10:25; Acts 14:23, 27; 20:17, 28; Galatians 1:2; Philippians 1:1; 1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:1
9. 1 Corinthians 11:3; Ephesians 1:22; Colossians 1:18
10. Acts 20:28; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-9; 1 Peter 5:1-5
11. 1 Timothy 5:17-22
12. Hebrews 13:7, 17
13. Matthew 28:19-20; 2 Timothy 2:2
14. Matthew 18:5-14
15. Matthew 18:15-22; Acts 5:1-11; 1 Corinthians 5:1-13; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-15; 1 Timothy 1:19-20; Titus 1:10-16

16. Titus 1:5
17. Acts 15:19-31; 20:28; 1 Corinthians 5:4-7, 13; 1 Peter 5:1-4
18. Ephesians 3:21
19. Ephesians 4:13-16
20. 2 Timothy 2:2, 15; 3:16-17
21. Acts 2:47; 1 John 1:3
22. Luke 22:19; Acts 2:38-42
23. Matthew 28:19; Acts 1:8; 2:42
24. 1 Corinthians 15:58; Ephesians 4:12; Revelation 22:12
25. Ephesians 4:7-12
26. Romans 12:5-8; 1 Corinthians 12:4-31; 1 Peter 4:10-11
27. Hebrews 2:3-4; 2 Corinthians 12:12
28. 1 Corinthians 13:13-14:12; Revelation 13:13-14; Romans 12:6-8
29. Luke 18:1-6; John 5:7-9; 2 Corinthians 12:6-10; James 5:13-16; 1 John 5:14-15
30. Acts 2:38-42; Acts 8:36-39; Romans 6:1-11; Acts 2:41-42
31. 1 Corinthians 11:28-32
32. 1 Corinthians 10:16

## Angels

Holy Angels. We teach that angels are created beings and are therefore not to be worshiped. Although they are a higher order of creation than man, they are created to serve God and to worship Him.<sup>1</sup>

Fallen Angels. We teach that Satan is a created angel who was the efficient cause of the first sin. He incurred the judgment of God by rebelling against his Creator,<sup>2</sup> by taking numerous angels with him in his fall,<sup>3</sup> and by introducing sin into the human race by his temptation of Adam and Eve.<sup>4</sup>

We teach that Satan is the open and declared enemy of God and man<sup>5</sup> that he is the prince of this world, who has been defeated through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ;<sup>6</sup> and that he shall be eternally punished in the lake of fire.<sup>7</sup>

1. Luke 2:9-14; Hebrews 1:6-7, 14; 2:6-7; Revelation 5:11-14; 19:10; 22:9
2. Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19
3. Matthew 25:41; Revelation 12:1-14
4. Genesis 3:1-15
5. Isaiah 14:13-14; Matthew 4:1-11; Revelation 12:9-10
6. Romans 16:20
7. Isaiah 14:12-17; Ezekiel 28:11-19; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10

## Last Things

Death. We teach that physical death involves no loss of our immaterial consciousness,<sup>1</sup> that the soul of the redeemed passes immediately into the presence of Christ,<sup>2</sup> that there is a separation of soul and body,<sup>3</sup> and that, for those in Christ, such separation will continue until the rapture<sup>4</sup>, which initiates the first resurrection<sup>5</sup> when our soul and body will be reunited to be glorified forever with our Lord.<sup>6</sup> Until that time, the souls of the redeemed in Christ remain in joyful fellowship with Him in the intermediate heaven.<sup>7</sup>

We teach the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life,<sup>8</sup> and the unsaved to judgment and everlasting punishment.<sup>9</sup>

We teach that the souls of the unsaved at death are kept under punishment in the intermediate hell until the second resurrection,<sup>10</sup> when the soul and the resurrection body will be united.<sup>11</sup> They shall then appear at the Great White Throne Judgment<sup>12</sup> and shall be cast into eternal hell, the lake of fire,<sup>13</sup> cut off from the life of God and enduring His wrath forever.<sup>14</sup>

1. Revelation 6:9-11
2. Luke 23:43; Philippians 1:23; 2 Corinthians 5:8
3. Philippians 1:21-24
4. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17
5. Revelation 20:4-6
6. Philippians 3:21; 1 Corinthians 15:35-44, 50-54
7. 2 Corinthians 5:8
8. John 6:39; Romans 8:10-11, 19-23; 2 Corinthians 4:14
9. Daniel 12:2; John 5:29; Revelation 20:13-15
10. Luke 16:19-26; Revelation 20:13-15
11. John 5:28-29
12. Revelation 20:11-15
13. Matthew 25:41-46; Revelation 20:15
14. Daniel 12:2; Matthew 25:41-46; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9

*The Rapture of the Church.* We teach the personal, bodily return of our Lord Jesus Christ before the seven-year tribulation<sup>1</sup> to translate His church from this earth.<sup>2</sup> We teach that, between the rapture and His glorious return to the earth with His saints, He will reward believers according to their works.<sup>3</sup>

1. 1 Thessalonians 4:16; Titus 2:13
2. John 14:1-3; 1 Corinthians 15:51-53; 1 Thessalonians 4:15-5:11
3. 1 Corinthians 3:11-15; 2 Corinthians 5:10

*The Tribulation Period.* We teach that immediately following the removal of the church from the earth<sup>1</sup> the righteous judgments of God will be poured out upon an unbelieving world<sup>2</sup> and that these judgments will be climaxed by the return of Christ in glory to the earth.<sup>3</sup> At that time, the saints of the Old Testament and the tribulation saints will be raised and the living will be judged<sup>4</sup>. This period includes the seventieth week of Daniel's prophecy.<sup>5</sup>

1. John 14:1-3; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
2. Jeremiah 30:7; Daniel 9:27; 12:1; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12; Revelation 16
3. Matthew 24:27-31; 25:31-46; 2 Thessalonians 2:7-12
4. Daniel 12:2-3; Revelation 20:4-6
5. Daniel 9:24-27; Matthew 24:15-31; 25:31-46

*The Second Coming and the Millennial Reign.* We teach that, after the tribulation period, Christ will come to earth to occupy the throne of David<sup>1</sup> and establish His messianic kingdom for 1,000 years on the earth.<sup>2</sup> During this time the resurrected saints will reign with Him over Israel and all the nations of the earth.<sup>3</sup> This reign will be preceded by the overthrow of the Antichrist and the False Prophet, and by the removal of Satan from the world.<sup>4</sup>

We teach that the kingdom itself will be the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel<sup>5</sup> to restore them to the land which they forfeited through their disobedience.<sup>6</sup> The result of their disobedience was that Israel was temporarily set aside<sup>7</sup> but will again be awakened through repentance to enter into the land of blessing.<sup>8</sup>

We teach that this time of our Lord's reign will be characterized by harmony, justice, peace, righteousness, and long life,<sup>9</sup> and that it will be brought to an end with the release of Satan.<sup>10</sup>

1. Matthew 25:31; Luke 1:31-33; Acts 1:10-11; 2:29-30
2. Revelation 20:1-7
3. Ezekiel 37:21-28; Daniel 7:17-22; Revelation 19:11-16
4. Daniel 7:17-27; Revelation 20:1-7
5. Isaiah 65:17-25; Ezekiel 37:21-28; Zechariah 8:1-17
6. Deuteronomy 28:15-68
7. Matthew 21:43; Romans 11:1-26

8. Jeremiah 31:31-34; Ezekiel 36:22-32; Romans 11:25-29
9. Isaiah 11; 65:17-25; Ezekiel 36:33-38; Zechariah 8:4
10. Revelation 20:7

*The Judgment of the Lost.* We teach that following the release of Satan after the 1,000-year reign of Christ,<sup>1</sup> Satan will deceive the nations of the earth and gather them to battle against the saints and the beloved city, at which time Satan and his army will be devoured by fire from heaven.<sup>2</sup> Following this, Satan will be thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone,<sup>3</sup> whereupon Christ, who is the Judge of all men,<sup>4</sup> will resurrect and judge all unbelievers at the Great White Throne Judgment.

We teach that this resurrection of the unsaved dead to judgment will be a physical, bodily resurrection<sup>5</sup> in which they will be committed to eternal conscious punishment in the lake of fire.<sup>6</sup>

1. Revelation 20:7
2. Revelation 20:9
3. Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:10
4. John 5:22
5. John 5:28-29
6. Matthew 25:41; Revelation 20:9-15

*Eternity.* We teach that after the closing of the millennium, the temporary release of Satan, and the judgment of unbelievers,<sup>1</sup> the saved will enter the eternal state of glory with God, after which the elements of this earth are to be dissolved<sup>2</sup> and replaced with a new earth, wherein only righteousness dwells.<sup>3</sup> Following this, the heavenly city will come down out of heaven<sup>4</sup> and will be the dwelling place of the saints, where they will enjoy forever fellowship with God and one another.<sup>5</sup> Our Lord Jesus Christ, having fulfilled His redemptive mission, will then deliver up the kingdom to God the Father,<sup>6</sup> that in all spheres the triune God may reign forever and ever.<sup>7</sup>

1. 2 Thessalonians 1:9; Revelation 20:7-15
2. 2 Peter 3:10
3. Ephesians 5:5; Revelation 20:15; 21:1-27; 22:1-21
4. Revelation 21:2
5. John 17:3; Revelation 21-22
6. 1 Corinthians 15:24-28
7. 1 Corinthians 15:28